

Rajat Gupta's baby clocks 12. Growing younger everyday



The Indian School of Business (ISB) has done it once again. This time it has been ranked number 12 in the global B-school rankings released last week by the Financial Times, London. This is the third successive year that the ISB has featured among the top 20, in the list of top 100 B Schools in the world. Previously, ISB was ranked 15th in 2009 and 20th in 2008.

According to Rajat Gupta, Chairman, ISB, we began with the idea of creating a school in India that would rank among the best in the world. "I am delighted that the ISB is consolidating its position as a top-ranked global business school. To receive this news on the eve of the completion of 60 years of the Indian Republic makes it all the more special." Echoing the sentiment, Ajit Rangnekar, dean, ISB added, "This is indeed a proud moment for the ISB. Our goal has always been to pursue excellence in education and research. As an outcome of this effort, we accept any ranking that we get with humility, and rededicate ourselves to this goal."

When asked about his goals for the school, Rangnekar, the newly appointed dean of ISB, said: "Our focus will be on grooming responsible leaders and on discovering business solutions to the problems of the society and not just of the business world." As per him, the research that ISB does and the education it gives must create leaders who have a strong impact on the transformation of the society we live in, which means focusing also on areas of importance to the society - healthcare,

education, energy, infrastructure, to name a few non-traditional areas. He believes that this is what will increasingly distinguish the ISB from leading B-Schools in the developed world. "We will accept whatever consequential effect that focus has on the ranking", he added

The ISB was established in 2001 with the launch of its pioneering post graduate programme in management (PGPM). From an initial class of 126 students, the school has grown over the years, and currently has 570 students in the class of 2010. The school boasts of over 2300 alumni who are making a strong impact in business and industry. The school has also established itself as a leader in executive education through its programmes designed and delivered for private and public sector corporations, small and medium enterprises, and central and state governments. The ISB faculty research papers are consistently published by top ranked peer reviewed international journals.

After a successful first phase of growth, the ISB has now entered its second phase of growth and expansion. It recently launched its second post graduate programme in management for senior executives (PGPMAX). "The programme has generated a lot of interest among senior business professionals. It will soon set up its second campus in Mohali, Punjab. The first academic session at the ISB campus in Mohali is expected to commence in 2012", said Rangnekar.

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